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pensive substitute for a lawyer's advice. But even a corporation lawyer may find much that is helpful in Mr. Conyngton's manual.

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**Crichfield, George W.** *American Supremacy.* 2 vols. Pp. xvi, 1244. Price, \$6.00. New York: Brentano's, 1908.

From internal evidence it appears that the author is an engineer who has had wide experience in construction work in Venezuela. His life there has furnished him with many examples of the faults of South-American governments. As a consequence, the whole tone of his volumes is one of acrid criticism. South Americans, as a whole, are criticised as semi-barbarians and liars. They can never achieve responsible self-government. The United States should assume control over the ill-ordered republics. One of the great impediments to this course is the Monroe Doctrine, which the author criticises as a national superstition, a bar to civilization and a menace to our peace and safety. Peru, Chile and the Argentine and Mexico should for the present be left to themselves. Costa Rica, Brazil, Uruguay and Paraguay, are governments not worthy of recognition, but not wholly bad; all the other countries "have sinned away their day of grace."

An author who writes with so much animus, seriously limits the hearing which he will receive. These two large volumes contain, however, a mass of valuable information. The extended quotations from various works on South America give us material not elsewhere easy of access, but lack of orderly arrangement and digressions covering dozens of pages swell the volumes far beyond what should be their size. Among the latter are an attack on the Supreme Court; a discussion of the naturalization law of the United States, containing numerous misstatements of fact, and a summary review of European colonization.

The interpretations of fact are in so many places unfair that the criticisms in unfamiliar fields cannot be accepted without question. For example the author thinks the most we can hope for in the United States is that the good accomplished by our courts will exceed the evil. The defects of South-American cities and of Chicago and New Orleans, in matters of sanitation, the author holds are not far different in degree. "It is time that the cities of these countries and Chicago and New Orleans should be cleaned up."

Secretary Root's visit to Brazil is discussed in detail. The author concludes, "The shouting of frenzied crowds . . . the clamor of bands, the booming of cannons, the cut-glass and bouquets may fool Elihu Root, but they cannot deceive me." Unfortunately, such estimates as these are almost typical of the author's attitude. Even discounting the manifest bias of the discussion the books present material which makes a strong impeachment of many of the governments. There is so much unstinted praise of Latin-American advance that a presentation of the other side, even though *ex-parte*, is welcome.

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